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Karen Buzinski

**PATENT** 

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Jared Timko et al.		)	Examiner:	John Bastianelli
Serial No.:	10/526,738	)	Art Unit:	3751
Filed:	March 4, 2005	)	Attorney Do	cket No.: 22188/06985
For:	BALL VALVE PACKING	)	Confirmation	n No.: 7877

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

## FOREIGN LANGUAGE DOCUMENTS

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that portion of the Communication indicating the

	degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.
	In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant submits the following explanations:
	Complete English translations of foreign language documents are being submitted herewith, and therefore no concise explanation for such documents is required.
CERT	CIFICATION AND FEE PAYMENT INFORMATION
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to <b>Deposit Account No. 030172</b> .
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed thirty days or fewer from a Communication from a foreign patent office and Applicant submits the following Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.704(d). Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application and this Communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than thirty days prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant submits the following Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. If this is not the case, the patent office is hereby authorized to charge any related fee to <b>Deposit Account No. 030172</b> .
	Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
	No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
	The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement under

	the ma Notice (which	F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of threaling date of the first Office Action of Allowance, or an action that otherwise earlier). Accordingly, Appl 7(p). The fee is being paid in the form	on the merit erwise close icant submit	s, but before a Final Offices prosecution in the applications the fee required under 3	ce Action, cation
		A check is attached in the amount	of \$	as required under 37 § 1	.17(p).
		The patent office is hereby authoriany related fee to <b>Deposit Account</b>	_		and
	Office application submit	resent Information Disclosure Stater Action, Notice of Allowance or an ation, but on or before the payment ts the following Statement under 37 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).	action that of the issue	otherwise closes prosecution fee. Accordingly, Application	on in the
		Each item of information contained cited in a Communication from a supplication not more than three more	oreign paten	nt office in a counterpart fo	oreign
		No item of information contained cited in a Communication from a sapplication or, to the knowledge of inquiry, was known to any individe three months prior to the filing of	oreign paten f the undersi ual designate	at office in a counterpart for gned, having made reasor ed in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) is	oreign nable
		AND, the fee is being	oaid in the fo	ollowing manner:	
		A check is attached in the amount	of \$	as required under 37 § 1	.17 <b>(</b> p).
		The patent office is hereby authoriany related fee to <b>Deposit Account</b>	_	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	and
		Please charge any fee deficiencies No. 03-0172, order number 22188		y overpayments to Deposi	t Account
		Resp	ectfully sub	mitted,	
Date: <sub>-</sub>	512	By:_		J. Smith, Reg. No. 45,115 ER No. 24024	<u>.</u>

PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

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Substitute for form

Sheet 1

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

of |1

Complete if Known			
Application Number	10/526,738		
Filing Date	March 4, 2005		
First Named Inventor	Jared Timko et al.		
Art Unit	3751		
Examiner Name	John Bastianelli		
Attorney Docket Number	22188/06985		

			U. S. PATENT	DOCUMENTS	***************************************
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2 (fl known)</sup>	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		<sup>US-</sup> 5,419,532	05/1995	Fan	
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear		
	Country Code <sup>3 -</sup> Number <sup>4 -</sup> Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			T <sup>6</sup>	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.